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THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING

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THE NURSING RECORD

No. 1,501. VOL. 58. [Registered at the General Post Office as a Newspaper.]

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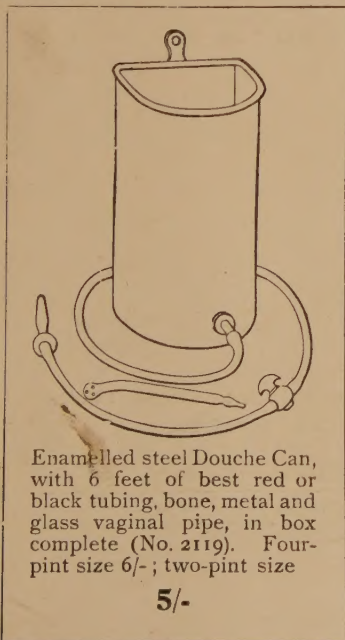
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HERBERT H. JENNINGS,
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HOSPITAL AND POOR LAW VACANCIES ETC.—continued.

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JNO. W. BARNES,

Board Room,
 20th December, 1916. 44

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Applications, stating age, previous experience, and accompanied by copies (not originals) of not more than six testimonials, will be received by the Secretary up to 11th January, 1917.

ARTHUR WATTS,

Secretary.
 23

THE HORTON (COUNTY OF LONDON) WAR HOSPITAL, EPSOM.

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HOSPITAL AND POOR LAW VACANCIES ETC.—continued.

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DEVON COUNTY COUNCIL

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Apply to MATRON, Northamptonshire War Hospital, Duston, Northampton. 39

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Salary, £85 per annum, rising by annual increments of £5 to a maximum of £100 and Uniform.

Applications, stating age and experience, accompanied by copies of two recent testimonials, to be in my hands not later than JANUARY 8th, 1917.

D. LECHMERE ANDERSON,
 Medical Officer of Health,
 Public Health Office, Doncaster.
 Wood Street, Doncaster. 40

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HOSPITAL AND POOR LAW VACANCIES ETC.—continued.

BOROUGH OF NELSON. FEMALE HEALTH VISITOR.

The Health Committee invite applications for the appointment of FEMALE HEALTH VISITOR, at the salary of £100 per annum, rising by annual increments of £5 to £120.

Candidates must hold the Certificate of the Central Midwives Board, and preference will be given to those possessing the additional qualification of trained Nurse or Sanitary Inspector.

Applications, stating age, qualifications, and experience, accompanied by copies of not more than three recent testimonials, and endorsed "Health Visitor," to be received not later than MONDAY, 8th January.

Canvassing is prohibited, and will be a disqualification.

J. H. BALDWIN, Town Clerk.

Town Hall, Nelson,
22nd December, 1916.

41

MERIONETH COUNTY COUNCIL. APPOINTMENT OF HEALTH VISITOR.

Applications are invited for the post of LADY HEALTH VISITOR in connection with the Council's scheme of Maternity and Infant Welfare.

The person appointed will also have supervision of part-time Health Visitors.

Candidates must be fully-trained Nurses and hold the Central Midwives Board certificate.

A knowledge of Welsh is essential. Salary £90 per annum and travelling expenses.

Applications, in candidates' own handwriting, stating age and qualifications, and accompanied by copies of not less than two recent testimonials, must be forwarded to me, the undersigned, so as to reach me at my Office at Portmadoc not later than MONDAY, the 8th day of January, 1917.

DAVID BREESE,
Clerk of the County Council.

Portmadoc,
16th December, 1916.

42

COUNTY BOROUGH OF TYNEMOUTH.

The Town Council invite applications for the appointment of a third FEMALE HEALTH VISITOR.

Salary, £90 per annum, rising to £100; plus Uniform.

Candidates must have a Nurse's General training and possess the C.M.B. certificate; and preference will be given to those holding the Health Visitor's certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute and who are cyclists.

Applications, stating age, experience, &c, and accompanied by copies of three recent testimonials, to be delivered at my Office by TUESDAY, 9th January, 1917.

JAS. A. HISLOP,

Medical Officer of Health,
Public Health Department, Tynemouth,
22nd December, 1916.

43

APPOINTMENTS VACANT.

NIGHT SISTER REQUIRED. Must be fully trained nurse and good disciplinarian. Knowledge of open-air work desirable. Salary, £50; and Uniform. Apply, stating age and all particulars, to the MATRON, Lord Mayor Treloar's Cripples' Hospital, Alton, Hants. 37

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PROBATIONER, General Hospital (40 beds). Well educated. Three years' training. Certificate. Lectures. Salary, £6, £12, £15. Indoor Uniform. Apply, enclosing photo., MATRON, Horton Infirmary, Banbury, Oxon. 45

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BIRMINGHAM			May 1, 1917
BRISTOL	{	..	Aug. 1, 1917
			Nov. 1, 1917

LEEDS	{	..	Feb. 1, 1917
LIVERPOOL			Aug. 1, 1917

MANCHESTER	{	..	May 1, 1917
NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE			Nov. 1, 1917

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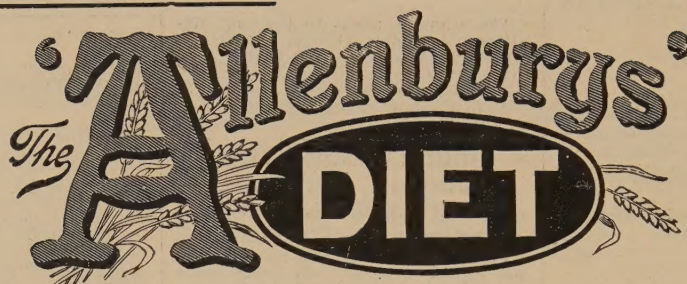
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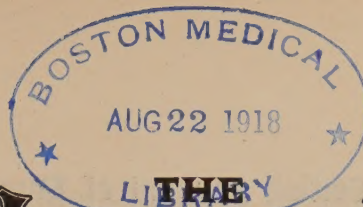
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BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING

WITH WHICH IS INCORPORATED
THE NURSING RECORD

EDITED BY MRS BEDFORD FENWICK

No. 1,501.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 6, 1917.

Vol. LVIII.

EDITORIAL.

HOW WE STAND IN 1917. THE REGISTRATION TRIANGLE.

For many years the Nursing Profession in the United Kingdom has been clearly divided into two parties, the State Registrationists and the Anti-State Registrationists. On the one side were the Matrons, Nurses, liberal-minded medical men, and public persons inspired by a keen sense of professional responsibility to the sick, who were united in their demand for the organization of nursing education by the State, and statutory registration by an independent body of professional experts, a policy unceasingly supported by *THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING* alone; and on the other side was a body of laymen engaged in hospital management, controlling absolutely the Nursing Schools attached, large employers of women as probationers and trained nurses, and associated with them their consultant medical staffs and Matrons, these persons opposed State Registration by every means in their power, by unwritten pressure within the institutions under their control, through the very highest social influence, through political influence as voters, by the systematic blocking of every Nurses' Registration Bill, by procuring the silence of the London press, and by widely distributed signed manifestoes to the general public in which they stated their belief that:—"Any system of State Registration would be detrimental to the Public, and harmful to the best Nurses themselves."

The anti-registration propaganda was thundered forth through the organs in the press controlled by that very unchivalrous knight, Sir Henry Burdett, who anathematized with shameless discourtesy the women who dared to form their own

professional opinions, and also had the courage to fight for them.

Thus in January, 1916, the two parties stood in open antagonism, a clear economic issue between them—Who is to govern the Nursing Profession, the persons who compose it, or those who employ them?

January, 1917, finds apparently an extraordinary kaleidoscopic change, which is less real than it appears. Instead of two parties with a straight issue between them, we find three, and it is the third line in the registration triangle which requires our very serious consideration.

THE PARTIES AND THEIR POLICIES.

THE PROFESSIONAL REGISTRATIONISTS.

(1) The professional registrationists, which includes the members of the Self-Governing Nurses' Organisations, and the British Medical Association, who stand firmly for the principles for which they have worked so long and so devotedly, *i.e.* State organisation to provide (1) An independent Governing Body on which trained nurses have direct and adequate representation from the inception of the Act, (2) Central examination, (3) State Registration.

THE ANTI-REGISTRATIONISTS.

(2) The Anti-Registrationists, led by Lord Knutsford and Miss Eva Luckes of the London Hospital, who still oppose any form of self-government and legal status for trained nurses. From their most recent "Notice" these people are frankly reactionary, and mean, as long as Parliament permits, to exercise autocratic control over their own employees, and to prevent any State protection for the employees of others. Here anyway we have a determined economic policy, and as it is one which will be swept away in the maelstrom

of War, we have only to define our just claims and push them forward to win this long-drawn-out duel.

CONTROL BY NURSING SCHOOLS.

(3) The policy of the third party, which has adopted State Registration in name, whilst in practice reserving the control of the Nursing Profession to the Nursing Schools, is in our opinion even more deterrent to sound professional evolution than that of uncompromising obstruction. Control by Nursing Schools is epitomised in the Memorandum and Articles of Association, and in the Bill drafted by the College of Nursing, Limited. Briefly the College, which claims to organize and control the whole nursing profession without consent, is a lay corporation which voices the opinions of managers of Hospitals and Poor Law Institutions through their matrons and consultant medical officers, who almost entirely compose its nominated Council; and which has the effrontery to term its Constitution "democratic," the while carefully excluding any direct representation of the nursing profession from its governing body for three years, and from the Preliminary Council to be set up by its Bill, which is empowered to make the rules and regulations to which the registered nurses have to conform. This third party is composed largely of matrons who have signed Lord Knutsford's manifestoes that "any system of State Registration would be detrimental to the Public, and harmful to the best Nurses themselves," and we are bound to confess that in assuming control of the nursing profession by divine right these ladies are apparently just as much opposed to self-governing legislation for trained nurses as they were in their anti-registration incarnation! Moreover, the fact that the Burdett press is at the disposal of, and is utilized weekly by the College officials, sounds a note of warning concerning its "democratic" methods, which it will be well for lovers of liberty to note and remember.

It will be interesting to watch the evolution of events in 1917.

We professional registrationists must work without ceasing for just and progressive legislation, with conscience, courage, and circumspection.

OUR PRIZE COMPETITION.

WHAT IS A PARASITE? WHAT EXTERNAL PARASITES ATTACK MAN? DESCRIBE IN DETAIL THE TREATMENT AND MANAGEMENT OF SCABIES, WITH SPECIAL REFERENCE TO THE PREVENTION OF THE SPREAD OF THE DISEASE.

We have pleasure in awarding the prize this week to Miss Bessie Grey Johnson, Baldwyn's Park, Bexley.

PRIZE PAPER.

A parasite is any organism which lives in or upon any other organism, at whose expense it derives its nourishment, and usually its habitation. There are, however, two kinds—the internal and external vegetable and the internal and external animal.

Mistletoe is perhaps one of the best-known parasites belonging to the external vegetable variety. Those which infect the human body may be either vegetable or animal.

The following are examples of a few of the internal parasites:—Cestoides = tape worms; trematoda = flat worms; hematodes = round worms; amæbæ coli = organisms found in mucus passed from the intestines of patients suffering from dysentery; hæmatozoa = organisms found in the blood of persons suffering from malaria (and in animals living in regions subjected to the invasion of the tsetse fly).

The external parasites belonging to the animal variety which attack man are:—Gnats. Mosquitoes. Pediculi = pediculus capitis = head louse; pediculus vestimentorum = body louse; pediculus pubis = crab louse. Pulex irritans = common flea. Cimex lectularius = bed bug. Sarcoptes scabii (causing scabies). Bemodex folliculorum (found in the sebaceous sacs and hair follicles). Sarcopsylla penetrans (the female burrows under the skin, and swells up to twice her size with eggs, so producing hyperæmia and pus).

The common sheep tick is occasionally parasitic on man.

External *vegetable* parasites comprise the fungi which are responsible for ringworm, favus, and erythrasma.

Scabies (or itch) is a multiform disease of the skin, consisting of papules, vesicles, pustules, and sometimes bullæ, which are due to the itch acarus.

The female acarus, after impregnation, bores her way under the skin in an oblique direction, so that as the superficial layers of the epidermis are detached by friction, she still remains the same depth from the surface, and as she proceeds she lays her eggs.

The male does not burrow, and may sometimes be caught on the surface of the skin.

Parts of the body especially liable to the attacks of the acarus are the skin between the fingers, inner side of the wrist, front of forearm, ankle, foot, axilla, and groin.

Scabies is generally quickly cured by the free use of sulphur ointment, which should be rubbed in at bed time and left on, and covered by suitable clothing; the hands are easily kept covered by white cotton gloves.

For some skins sulphur ointment is too irritating, and requires dilution.

Sulphur baths should also be taken (potassium sulphide 4 oz. to 30 gallons of water).

Storax ointment is very effectual, and is not so irritating as the sulphur ointment.

To prevent the recurrence and the spread of the disease new clothes should be worn by the patient, all old ones being disinfected by thorough baking, the same applying to bed clothes and towels, &c., all toilet articles used by the patient to be kept apart from others.

When possible, the safest plan is to isolate the patient.

It should be noted that while most parasites live within or upon their host, certain classes only sojourn temporarily on the surface of the body in order to obtain their food. To this class belong gnats, mosquitoes, fleas, and bugs.

HONOURABLE MENTION.

The following competitors receive honourable mention:—Miss J. Macintyre, Miss M. O'Brian, Miss Emily S. Lewis.

Miss Lewis writes:—"A watch must be kept that sulphur, when used, is not acting as an irritant, as some skins are very sensitive. Vaseline or some simple ointment will usually alleviate the irritation. The patient should have clean clothing and sheets every day (more often if necessary), the soiled clothing sent direct to the disinfecter, and thence to the laundry. All cups and utensils boiled daily. The patient should have a plain nourishing diet and plenty of fresh air; bowels well open.

"During convalescence it is a good thing to sprinkle the sheets and night garment with powdered sulphur to act as a preventive against relapse.

"The nurse should wear an overall, and be very careful in thoroughly cleansing and disinfecting her hands both before and after attending to the patient."

QUESTION FOR NEXT WEEK.

What are the different forms of meningitis in children? What do you know of them, and of the nursing care needed?

THE GUINEA WORM.

By MISS A. M. BURKE.

There is no doubt that human flesh is heir to many diseases, and some of them contracted through sheer ignorance. The guinea worm, like most worms, is a tiresome complaint to be suffering from. Recently we have been admitting quite a number of cases into the Sir Jamsetjee Jijibhoy Hospital for treatment, and, seeing that it is fairly prevalent, I send you a description of the same, on the off chance that it may interest your many readers.

The guinea worm, or *Dracunculus medienensis*, is a tropical complaint, and occurs in Africa, Arabia, India, and Persia. It generally attacks the feet, legs, scrotum, and the back in the bhistee, or Indian water-carrier, and very occasionally is found in other parts of the body.

The ova, or embryos, are supposed to leave the human body in the excreta, or by the secretions, or through some skin lesion. They begin life in the water. They float about in the water until they are swallowed or taken up by a suitable intermediary, the cyclop. Travellers in the infected area—by which I mean the rivers or pools, &c., in which these particular cyclops are to be found—drink the water, as it looks clean and fresh, and in doing so swallow these cyclops. These cyclops after being swallowed are killed by the gastric juice, but not so the guinea worm embryos, which for some unaccountable reason are set free, and become most active. Being set free, these embryos develop, and begin to think about domestic life. Very little is known about this, or the development. Only a small percentage of guinea worm embryos attain adult life.

The female guinea worm at adult life measures two to three feet in length, and is a cylindrical long white tube as fine as whipcord. Her whole body is of one thickness, except at the tail, which ends off in a hook-like structure. She lies in irregular curls under the skin or in the connective tissue between the muscles, and when she feels that her time of maternity is drawing near, works her way to any part of the body which she feels will be frequently in contact with water. In the Indians, who go barefoot, she generally burrows her way here, but in the European she makes her appearance frequently higher up in the body. In the bhisty her favourite spot is the back, where the skin comes in contact with the "mussuck," or leather water-bag. It seems strange, but on her descent she seldom enters joints, and never injures nerves or blood vessels. When ovulation is completed and she is anxious to expel

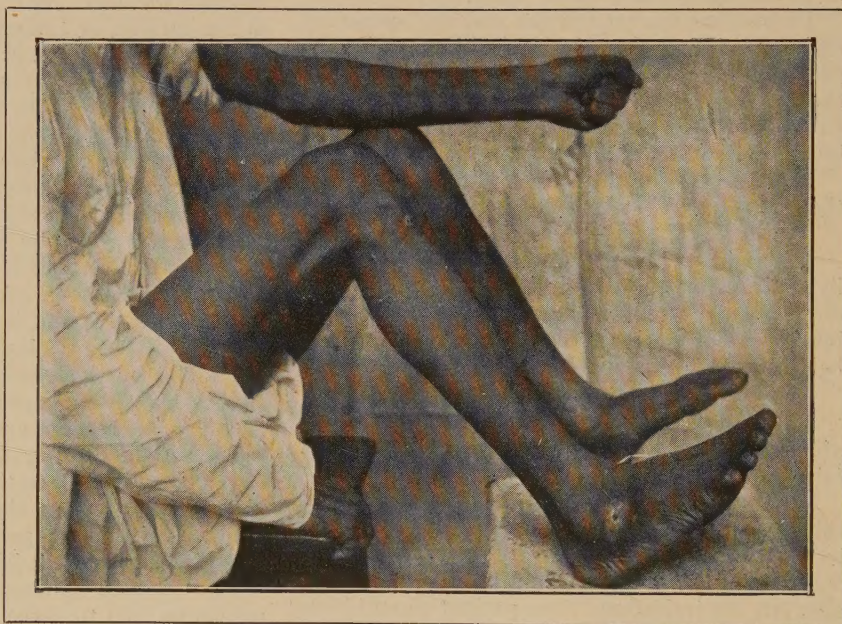
her embryos, she burrows a tiny hole in the derma only. A small blister forms over this hole; when this is opened a small opening is seen leading to the worm, and sometimes the head of the worm itself presents. The presenting part in hospital is generally wrapped around a match stick, and cold water is allowed to drop a little away from the wound continuously. Gradually you find that more and more of the worm presents, and is rolled on the match stick until at last the whole is extracted. To make sure that the worm has come away entire, the tail end is placed under the microscope, and a distinct hook is observed. This hook can also be seen by the naked eye. On completion of ovulation, if you succeed in getting an entire guinea worm and dissect her, you will find that her two or three feet of body are entirely filled with hundreds of embryos. Sometimes, when the worm is presenting herself at the surface, a rise of temperature takes place, with a rash. A pretty experiment tried in wards was cold water dropped near the presenting part of the guinea worm; after the space of some seconds this seemed to stimulate her to eject a milky coloured fluid, which, being placed on a slide under the microscope, distinctly showed the guinea worm embryos moving about quite slowly. On the application of water to the slide they became more energetic. These embryos prefer muddy to clear water, and live longer in the latter.

This ejection of the milky fluid shows that the guinea worm has ejected some of her embryos. With the application of the cold water this ejection of milky fluid may go on with a stop of several hours between, and is completed from fourteen to twenty-one days. When parturition is completed, the guinea worm dies. Her average life, so far as is known, is one year.

I have seen cases admitted into wards where the guinea worm has broken, causing a good

deal of inflammation, irritation, swelling, and abscesses. All the patients complained of an acute burning sensation at the part affected. One poor thing went so far as to beg that his leg might be cut off. Needless to say that no such drastic treatment was carried out.

A peculiarity was that the irritation increased fourfold at nights. The cause of these symptoms is, when force is applied to extract the worm before she is prepared for such treatment, she resists by clinging to the tissues with her hook tail, and so her body snaps. Many embryos are thus thrown into the surrounding tissues, causing the above trying symptoms. It sometimes takes weeks for the patient to get well again. I have seen injected into the mouth



PATIENT SUFFERING WITH GUINEA WORM ON FOOT, LEG, AND ARM.

of the worm with a hypodermic syringe a solution of bichloride of mercury 1-1000. This is supposed to be an easy way of killing the worm and keeping the tract aseptic. The male guinea worm is much smaller than the female, and very little is known about him. The easiest way to prevent oneself from getting this troublesome complaint is to strain all drinking water, to keep the feet well shod, and in infected districts to keep the clothes dry.

I think the contrivance they have in wards is a good and cheap one for continuous water irrigation a drop at a time. Three bamboos are tied to the foot of the bed. A small mud-water chatty, with a tiny hole bored at the bottom, through which a wick of lint is drawn

out two inches beyond the opening, and the chatty filled about three-quarters with water. The foot with the part affected is placed over a large enamelled tray, sufficiently large to collect all the water which drops from the chatty; over the presenting part of the guinea worm is placed a square of lint, and cold water is allowed to drop continuously on this until the worm is extracted. I forgot to mention the principal thing. The chatty is tied up by a strong bandage to the top bamboo, and so suspended over the foot or affected part. I think this a very good arrangement, as the nurse need not worry more than to keep the chatty well supplied with water. A net cover is placed over the chatty, which keeps out dust. The mud chatty only costs two farthings, or six pies, and is never used a second time.

J.J. Hospital, Bombay.

SIR DOUGLAS HAIG'S DESPATCH.

In Sir Douglas Haig's Despatch on the Somme Campaign the following praise is accorded the Medical and Nursing Services:—

WORK OF MEDICAL AND NURSING SERVICES.

The losses entailed by the constant fighting threw a specially heavy strain on the Medical Services. This has been met with the greatest zeal and efficiency. The gallantry and devotion with which officers and men of the regimental medical service and field ambulances have discharged their duties is shown by the large number of the R.A.M.C. and Medical Corps of the Dominions who have fallen in the field. The work of the Medical Services behind the front has been no less arduous. The untiring professional zeal and marked ability of the surgical specialists and consulting surgeons combined with the skill and devotion of the medical and nursing staffs, both at the casualty clearing stations in the field and the stationary and general hospitals at the base, have been beyond praise.

FRENCH FLAG NURSING CORPS.

We are pleased to learn that Miss Eleanor Turnell, Supervisor, F.F.N.C. Unit at Fismes, has been awarded the Silver Medaille d'Honneur des Epidémiés by the French Government, for her work in nursing contagious cases with Ambulance 12/2. Miss Turnell has now been a member of the Corps since April, 1915, and has given much devoted service to the soldiers of the French Army suffering with various forms of infectious disease, and has with her colleagues done much to nurse them back to complete health. Fismes is in the war zone, and all the Sisters who have been on duty there have worked untiringly and won well-deserved commendation from the medical officers to whom they are responsible. The appreciation of the patients has also been of the most enthusiastic nature.

NURSING AND THE WAR.

A few weeks ago it was suggested that some kind of club accommodation should be provided for the nurses and V.A.D. members working in military and auxiliary hospitals in Edinburgh. It was recognised that they, in many instances, came from districts at a distance, and that they had nowhere to go for rest and relaxation when off duty. The suggestion had only to be made for its value to be appreciated, and it was most sympathetically received by the Edinburgh Committee of the Red Cross. A furnished house was acquired at 8, Hope Street by the Red Cross in the beginning of November, and an invitation to the nurses and V.A.D. members in the hospitals in Edinburgh and district to use it as a club was cordially given. In a few days a membership of 700 was reached, and it is satisfactory to know that there is now in a convenient part of the town a club where these war workers can rest, write letters, read papers, and in the early morning have a cup of cocoa or some such beverage, and get their tea in comfort in the afternoon. It is gratifying that this latest Red Cross scheme has been so generally taken advantage of. A committee of ladies supervise the affairs of the club, and, when necessary, assist with the work.

The newspapers are assuming that the future of the nursing profession depends upon what they describe as "the splendid material among V.A.D.s," yet one paper proceeds to report that "a cheerful young V.A.D., who declares that she likes nursing, and thinks she is good at it, gave the following reason for not qualifying herself for the care of the sick:—'No, I'm not "going in" for nursing in the ordinary way,' she said. 'The whole training scheme is unfair. Every beginner is absolutely at the mercy of her Matron, and there is quite an average percentage of cats among Matrons. A catty one can have you discharged without appeal and ruin your whole career, and all the time it may only be because she has herself goaded you into some trivial fault.'"

The "catty" contingent of Matrons may breathe again, and so may the right type of woman who is prepared to devote herself to the care of the sick and suffering of *both sexes*, and by much self-sacrifice acquire a thorough knowledge of her work. The "splendid material" presumably latent in the undisciplined kitten aforesaid will not be available for the higher evolution of our profession. With the Mrs. Dill-Binkies of fiction the species will disappear when the lime-light is turned off after the war.

The Dowager Empress Marie of Russia, in an interview at Kieff, where she has five hospitals for the wounded, recently told a special correspondent of the Exchange Telegraph Company that:—"There are no soldiers in the world like our Russian soldiers. Never have I heard them speak

one word of hatred against their enemies. Their kindness to their prisoners is touching, and they would rather starve themselves than see a prisoner go without food. When wounded they bear the most terrible suffering without a groan, and their gratitude towards us who nurse them is more than reward enough for the little we can do to pay our debt to these heroes."

The Russians are a very religious and mystic people, and well deserve the praise bestowed upon them by the Empress Marie, but every Queen of an Allied country will claim that there are no soldiers in the world as good as her own. It is a curious fact that one never sees an ugly man in khaki—all the faces bear the impress of some spiritual influence—which refines and beautifies them. Believe us, it is not a question of beauty in the lover's eye this time!

Mr. Stephen Graham has written:—

"Through all his illiteracy, the Russian peasant is nearer reality. He does not read about life, he lives; he does not read about death, he dies; he does not read about God, he prays."

JOINT WAR COMMITTEE.

The following Sisters have been deputed to duty abroad:—

No. 1 *Red Cross Hosp., Italy*.—Miss J. D. Brecken.

2 *Anglo Belgian Hosp., Calais*.—Miss C. Poyer.

Boulogne Head Quarters.—Miss D. M. Ivers, Miss K. Townsends, Miss A. K. Thompson, Miss M. Brown.

Scottish Women's Hospital, Salonica.—Miss M. Urquhart, Miss G. Hogg, Miss A. Aitkenhead, Miss M. Mackenzie, Miss F. Mackenzie.

CARE OF THE WOUNDED.

We hear that the Lord Mayor's Christmas card gave much pleasure to the patients at the 1st London General Hospital, Camberwell. The men appreciated the Lord Mayor's gift exceedingly, and many of the patients from overseas, of whom there were a number in the hospital, have sent it home as a keepsake.

A lecture will be given at Halkyn House, 13, Belgrave Square, on January 12th inst., at 3 p.m., by Mr. H. W. Fincham, entitled: "The History of the Order of St. John and its Present Work."

The lecture will be illustrated by a very interesting series of lantern slides, which will include views of the splendid hospital founded and maintained at Etaples in France by the Order of St. John, to supply which with bandages, dressings, bed linen, etc., the Supply Depot has been started.

Tickets, 5s. and 2s. 6d. each, can be obtained from Lady Paget, 35, Belgrave Square, S.W.

The Queen of Italy has, through the British Ambassador in Rome, sent the following message to the Joint War Committee with reference to the £10,000 Christmas gift of appliances and apparatus for disabled men, which the British Red Cross is making to Her Majesty:—"I beg you to convey my most sincere thanks to the Joint War Committee of the British Red Cross Society and the Order of St. John for their generous offer of material useful for the restoration and recovery of those who have been mutilated in the war, a work of love in which I am so greatly interested."

"My Country," by Marie, Queen of Roumania, gives us many interesting glimpses of the last country the enemy has put to the sword. Twenty-three years has she spent in the country, "each day bringing its joy or its sorrow, its light or its shade," and she tells us what she has seen and heard and felt whilst living amongst its simple, warm-hearted people. Nor does she paint only a few pictures as she has seen them; every page is also written from the heart. The book is published by Messrs. Hodder & Stoughton, at 5s., and all the profits from the sale will be paid to the British Red Cross Society for work in Roumania.

The Red Cross reports—

"An 'Adopter's' Bureau began operations on November 10th at the offices of the Central Prisoners of War Committee of the British Red Cross Society, at 4, Thurloe Place, London, S.W., in connection with the official scheme for the co-ordination of relief for British prisoners of war. The Committee is proceeding on the principle that, in the first instance, regimental care committees shall be responsible for supplying the needs of prisoners from their battalions. The personal and individual tie is also to be maintained as far as possible. Hitherto, generous donors have spent definite sums each week on a parcel or parcels for prisoners. This can still be done through the regimental care committee or the Central Prisoners of War Committee. The 'Adopters' Bureau facilitates this work. A complete and detailed index of men's names and needs will be kept by the Bureau, and to it relatives and individuals, or organisations, will be able to apply for names. Every new "adopter" will be given a postcard to be sent to the prisoner adopted, telling him to expect a parcel subscribed for. A subscriber of a small amount could be made responsible for a man's bread supply. Those desiring to have parcels sent should send alphabetic lists of the names and places of internment of civilians to whom they desire to send parcels, and the extent to which they will look after them. To provide completely for a prisoner, they should be prepared to send the equivalent of three parcels of food of the gross weight of 10 lbs. each per fortnight, and also arrange for about 7 lbs. of bread per week to be sent to him."

What a privilege for the grateful to be able to help our brave men in this way! ||

THE ROYAL RED CROSS.

Amongst the New Year's Honours the following ladies are awarded the decoration of the Royal Red Cross, in recognition of their valuable services with the Armies in the Field :—

QUEEN ALEXANDRA'S IMPERIAL MILITARY NURSING SERVICE.

1ST CLASS.—*Matrons* : Miss E. C. Cheetham, Miss R. Osborne. *Sisters (Acting Matrons)* : Miss E. Barber, Miss C. T. Bilton, Miss M. Clements, Miss S. N. Daly, Miss E. M. Denne, Miss E. M. Lang, Miss L. E. Mackay, Miss A. B. Nunn, Miss B. F. Perkins, Miss M. L. Potter, Miss K. Roscoe, Miss K. G. F. Skinner, Miss M. E. Smith, Miss M. Steenson, Miss C. G. Stronach, Miss A. Weir, Miss A. A. Wilson. *Sister* : Miss L. M. Toller. *Staff Nurse (Acting Matron)* : Miss G. Hughes. *Staff Nurse (Acting Sister)* : Miss K. H. M. Holmes.

2ND CLASS.—*Sisters* : Miss M. Barton, Miss K. M. Bulman (retired list) (Sister-in-Charge), Miss J. S. G. Gardner, Miss C. V. S. Johnson, Miss M. S. Williams, Miss M. D. Woodhouse. *Staff Nurses (Acting Sisters)* : Miss E. V. L. Clarke, Miss S. F. Davies, Miss W. E. Eardley, Miss E. V. Forrest, Miss W. M. Gedye, Miss F. McClelland, Miss A. L. Plimsaul, Miss C. Sandbach, Miss M. C. Tawnay, Miss A. C. W. Teevan, Miss G. M. Watkins, Miss I. M. Whyte, Miss M. Willes.

QUEEN ALEXANDRA'S IMPERIAL MILITARY NURSING SERVICE RESERVE.

1ST CLASS.—*Matron* : Miss M. S. Milne. *Sister (Acting Matron)* : Miss M. E. Thomson. *Sisters* : Miss A. I. Baird (Sister-in-Charge), Miss A. E. Cashin, Miss L. A. Cowley, Miss E. U. Jacques, Miss A. McLeod, Miss M. Ritchie-Thompson, Miss C. S. Soutar.

2ND CLASS.—*Sisters (Acting Matrons)* : Miss L. Badger, Miss C. Macleod. *Sisters* : Miss M. W. Bannister (Sister-in-Charge), Miss F. M. E. Barnard (Sister-in-Charge), Miss L. E. Barrow, Miss E. M. Beamish, Miss M. A. C. Blair (Sister-in-Charge), Miss D. T. Cackett (Sister-in-Charge), Miss M. A. Cain, Miss K. E. J. Chapman, Mrs. N. Dalrymple (Sister-in-Charge), Miss E. S. Davies, Miss E. I. Devenish Meares (Sister-in-Charge), Miss E. C. Franklin, Miss L. Greany, Miss M. H. Klamborowski, Miss H. McNulty, Miss M. A. Meeke (Sister-in-Charge), Miss K. A. Prendergast, Miss K. Read (Sister-in-Charge), Miss B. J. D. Reid (Sister-in-Charge), Miss M. E. Wragge. *Acting Sisters* : Miss H. M. Connell, Miss M. Humphrey-Jones, Miss Marion Johnston, Miss J. S. Rodger, Miss D. L. Rollo, Miss M. B. Street, Miss M. Wilson. *Staff Nurses* : Miss G. J. Blacklock, Miss E. Blythe, Miss M. Caird, Miss F. E. Child, Miss S. Corby, Miss B. M. W. Earle, Miss E. M. Hine, Miss A. Holmes, Miss B. O. Lidstone, Miss E. F. Mason, Miss M. McIlwraith, Miss M. Reid, Miss M. T. Sellar.

TERRITORIAL FORCE NURSING SERVICE.

1ST CLASS.—*Sister (Acting Matron)* : Miss J. I. Fortune. *Assistant Matron* : Miss H. Haddow.

Sisters : Miss E. Kerr (Sister-in-Charge), Miss M. C. Laing, Miss J. M. Murray, Miss I. Woodford.

2ND CLASS.—*Sisters* : Miss M. Cowie (Acting Matron), Miss C. F. Bayley (Sister-in-Charge), Miss P. Barnard (Sister-in-Charge), Miss M. Cameron (Sister-in-Charge), Miss C. L. Carnegie, Miss E. S. Cooke (Sister-in-Charge), Miss M. G. Edwards (Sister-in-Charge), Miss L. M. Finlayson, Miss E. Gardner, Miss C. E. J. Gerry, Miss M. Hendry, Miss M. Jennings, Miss A. M. Kelson, Miss J. Prentice, Miss E. Roethenbaugh, Miss E. R. Sloan (Sister-in-Charge), Miss F. M. Tailer, Miss B. S. Tinkler, Miss E. M. Watmore. *Staff Nurses* : Miss E. Dodd, Miss M. J. Hughes, Miss J. B. Lyle, Miss A. E. Roberts, Miss A. Scott-Pullar, Miss M. Scott-Watt.

QUEEN ALEXANDRA'S MILITARY NURSING SERVICE FOR INDIA.

1ST CLASS.—*Lady Superintendent* : Miss C. L. Cusins. *Senior Nursing Sister* : Miss A. M. Gilmore.

2ND CLASS.—*Nursing Sister* : Miss G. Haines.

AUSTRALIAN ARMY NURSING SERVICE.

1ST CLASS.—*Matrons* : Miss M. M. Finlay, Miss M. Graham, Miss J. N. Miles Walker.

2ND CLASS.—*Sisters* : Miss C. M. Keys, Miss A. O'Neill. *Staff Nurse* : Miss L. S. A. Ball, Miss N. Leake, Miss E. D. Rush, Miss F. E. Williams.

CANADIAN ARMY NURSING SERVICE.

1ST CLASS.—*Matrons* : Miss A. J. Hartley, Miss L. M. Hubley, Miss V. C. Nesbitt, Miss E. C. Ray-side, Miss F. Wilson.

2ND CLASS.—*Sisters* : Miss A. D. Allen, Miss A. Dickison, Miss F. Ellwood, Miss M. Hare, Miss F. A. Hunter, Miss J. M. Macdonald.

NEW ZEALAND NURSING SERVICE.

1ST CLASS.—*Matron* : Miss F. Price.

2ND CLASS.—*Sisters* : Miss A. Buckley, Miss F. H. Speedy. *Staff Nurses* : Miss K. Davies, Miss E. Hodges (acting Sister).

SOUTH AFRICAN NURSING SERVICE.

1ST CLASS.—*Matron* : Mrs. E. R. Creagh.

AMERICAN NURSING SERVICE.

1ST CLASS.—*Matron* : Miss M. G. Parsons.

2ND CLASS.—*Staff Nurse* : Miss A. B. Stevens.

NURSING STAFF OF CIVIL HOSPITALS.

1ST CLASS.—Miss K. E. Flower (acting Sister).

2ND CLASS.—Miss M. Alexander (acting Sister), Miss W. M. Amos (acting Sister), Miss C. M. Batchelor (acting Sister), Miss S. B. Burrell (acting Sister), Miss L. P. Deakin (acting Sister), Miss A. Duncan (Sister-in-Charge), Miss J. Duncan (Sister-in-Charge), Miss W. L. Hoare (Sister-in-Charge), Miss M. Hopton (Sister-in-Charge), Miss M. Huffer (Staff Nurse), Miss E. Killingbeck (acting Sister), Miss R. Miller (acting Sister), Miss L. Remnant (acting Sister), Miss C. B. Robb (Sister-in-Charge),

Miss E. O. Schofield (Sister-in-charge), Miss A. P. Smartt (Sister-in-charge), Miss J. Taggart (Sister-in-charge), Miss W. E. Tice (Sister-in-charge), Miss M. M. Timpson (Sister-in-charge), Miss E. J. Watt (acting Sister), Miss K. V. White (acting Sister), Miss M. Wolsey (acting Sister), Miss A. McD. Wright (acting Sister).

BRITISH RED CROSS SOCIETY

2ND CLASS.—Miss M. Brasier (Matron), Miss E. J. Densham (Matron), Miss H. M. Barry (Sister), Miss M. Maxwell (Sister).

LEAGUE NEWS.

As we go to press the Fourth Annual Nurses' Reunion of the Kensington Infirmary Nurses' League is taking place. Next week we hope to give a report of this function, which is always a pleasant one. The *Nurses' League Journal*, which is excellently produced and published contains many interesting articles and items of news. It is announced that H.R.H. Princess Henry of Battenberg has consented to be President of the Nurses' League.

STATE REGISTRATION OF NURSES.

Miss Jentie Paterson, so well known at one time as the Progressive Out-patient Sister at Guy's Hospital, writes:—

"I have gone over very carefully all that you have published in THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING lately for our Registration Bill, and the criticism of the Nursing College, and, as a thank-offering to the Society for the State Registration of Trained Nurses to which I belong, I am forwarding a donation of £2 2s. Since the beginning of the war, I have been abroad, and really had little time or opportunity to pay much attention to what the College of Nursing was doing."

We deeply appreciate Miss Paterson's generous gift, the more so as it is accompanied by a courageous expression of opinion. We constantly receive letters from nurses on leave from military duty abroad who know nothing of the Nursing College controversy. The majority have been told from headquarters that it is "looking after their interests during their absence, and the best thing they can do is to join it" and, presumably, "no further meddle therein." It is this attitude towards the rank and file of the nursing profession upon the part of the promoters of the College which is highly offensive to women of intelligence and independent spirit. "If it had not been for THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING, I should have arrived home after a year's foreign service to find it a going concern without any reference to our wishes," several sisters have told us.

THE COLLEGE OF NURSING.

MEETING IN DUBLIN.

The following letter appeared in the *Irish Times* on December 29th ult. :—

"SIR,—Saturday afternoon, January 27th, has been fixed for the meeting concerning the College of Nursing. Miss Cox Davies, R.R.C., Matron of the Royal Free Hospital, London, and Miss Rundle, Secretary to the College of Nursing, will speak, and, it is hoped, will be ready to answer the many anxious enquiries as to the aims, objects, and conditions of the College of Nursing. Our principal desire in planning this meeting is that every nurse in Ireland shall have an opportunity of hearing and understanding the arguments for and against the College of Nursing.

"Yours, &c.,

"HARRIET E. REED.

"Ivanhoe, Lansdowne Road, Dublin."

Miss Reed and the little group of anti-registration English Matrons in Dublin who are pushing the College have done well to provide a public opportunity for discussion on this "apple of discord." Miss Cox Davies, who is now the chief protagonist of the College policy amongst London Hospital Matrons, will, we feel sure, speak eloquently of its aims and objects, but, as Miss Reed states that the *raison d'être* for the meeting is that "every nurse in Ireland shall have an opportunity of hearing and understanding the arguments for and against the College of Nursing," we are surprised that the names of the speakers against have not been announced in the above letter. We must not have the "reciprocity all on one side," as they say in Ireland. Any way this meeting will give the speakers in favour of the College the opportunity of stating why the Irish Nurses' Association, amongst other self-governing nurses' organizations, has been ignored by the promoters of the College, and its representatives rigorously excluded from direct representation on the Preliminary Nursing Council, provided in the Bill drafted by the College.

GOVERNMENT WITHOUT CONSENT.

Speaking recently at a meeting of the Nursing Section of the Yorkshire Branch of the National Poor Law Officers' Association at Leeds, Miss Hare, Superintendent Nurse, North Bierley, read a paper on "The College of Nursing and the Position of Poor Law Nurses," in which she said that no body of workers in Great Britain have been so quiescent as to their own interests as the large body of trained nurses. "We are now awake, I trust; let us not be slothful. We owe a debt of gratitude to those members of our profession who for many years, through good report and ill, devoted their efforts to secure recognition for the trained nurse."

Miss Hare then pointed out where the College proposals are deficient so far as Poor Law Nurses are concerned, and stated that the Council of the College had already been compelled to recognise

the necessity of acknowledging the training schools recognised by the Local Government Board, and said that they owed a debt of gratitude to the President of the Poor Law Officers' Association for taking action when Poor Law Nurses were threatened with injustice by the College Council. The following resolution, which seventy nurses in the area had written to support was considered: "That this meeting strongly protests against the proposed Rules of the College of Nursing fixing the conditions of training for Poor Law Nurses and the lengthy period such conditions are made to apply, and urges the Association to take immediate steps to secure a modification of such rules."

Eventually, on the proposition of Mrs. Ritchie, seconded by Miss Kershaw, it was decided to ask the Poor Law Officers' Association to take the matter up and endeavour to secure recognition for nurses who had received an efficient training, although the condition of such training was not in conformity with the suggested rules of the College of Nursing.

LORD KNUTSFORD AND THE COLLEGE OF NURSING.

The following Notice has been sent to nurses trained at the London Hospital, by Lord Knutsford, the Chairman of the Hospital:—

London Hospital,
Whitechapel, E.

NOTICE TO THE LONDON HOSPITAL NURSING STAFF.

I have decided not to join the College of Nursing because I feel strongly that several of the objects set out in this Memorandum of Association, to carry out which the College is established, would be harmful to Nursing, and that is why the London Hospital has opposed these same objects for so long and with success.

One of these objects is to promote the *Registration of Nurses*.

Any Nurse who cares to read the arguments against the State Registration of Nurses can, by applying to Matron's Office, get a copy of a short pamphlet setting out these arguments.

It is not only that the London Hospital would have a great deal to lose by placing its first class Nurses on any State Register, thus sinking any distinction their training may have given them, by making them one and the same with all sorts of Nurses trained under inferior conditions. It is not only this, but I believe State Registration of Nurses would do harm to the best Nurses of all Schools, and would be no protection to the public, nor to Nurses themselves.

Another object of the College is "to promote a uniform curriculum of training for Nurses."

If we at the "London" were to be compelled by being members of the College to alter our system of training to that of other Hospitals, we should no longer be able to turn out the type of nurse we have been so proud of.

We are not afraid of its being known that there are "College Nurses" and "London Hospital" Nurses, and the public can choose between them.

Our system of training, the result of Miss Lückes' unrivalled experience, has been proved to be successful in turning out the very best Nurses.

The same results cannot be obtained by different machinery.

Each Hospital should be allowed to train its Nurses as it finds it can best do so, and should not be interfered with in this by people who do not know its system from inside, and will not judge it by its results.

It does not seem to me to be likely to improve the training of Nurses to have one time, one system, one examination, applicable to all, with no consideration given to the very different circumstances, opportunities and organisation existing at each Hospital.

If an universal curriculum had been in existence in the past we should have had no progress. It would have stereotyped and made permanent what was considered possible at the moment when the curriculum was settled—and "possible" be it remembered not to the best and most advanced hospitals, but possible to the majority. All Hospitals would thereby be levelled down instead of up.

At any rate, I object to putting our Training School—the largest and the most successful in England—under the control of others, whose theories of training formed at some smaller school, would be fatal to the production of the best type of Nurses. Moreover, the adoption of these theories, which would be compulsory on those who join the College, might well introduce many complications into the practical management of those Hospitals whose methods of training were well adapted to their own particular circumstances.

It would be impossible for the London Hospital to continue producing either the quantity or quality of nurses it has done for so many years, if we are to be regulated in any way by an outside Body, whose theories might be constantly changing and which were not based upon the experience of dealing with large numbers under one roof.

To maintain our standard of Nurses, which has met with universal praise wherever they have nursed, is well worth doing. To drag this training down to a level, which may be inevitable elsewhere, would be a disaster.

Any London Hospital Nurse who wishes to join the College is, of course, at liberty to do so. Each Nurse must judge for herself.

November, 1916.

KNUTSFORD.

There is no new anti-registration argument advanced by Lord Knutsford in his latest "Notice" to London Hospital Nurses. It strikes one as most anomalous that the laity are qualified at will to join a College of Nursing, whilst members of the Nursing Profession must produce evidence of character, training and skill before they are eligible to do so!

LADY MINTO'S INDIAN NURSING ASSOCIATION.

AN INTERVIEW WITH MISS RUTH E. DARBYSHIRE, R.R.C.

The appointment of Miss Darbyshire, Matron of St. Mary's Hospital, Paddington, as Chief Lady Superintendent of Lady Minto's Indian Nursing Association, caused some surprise in the nursing world. So might we feel surprise if an English Bishop resigned his office as a dignitary of the English Church, the calm atmosphere of his cathedral city, and the even and well-ordered life of his episcopal palace, for that of an Indian or Colonial Bishopric. But an interview with Miss Darbyshire quickly throws light on the mystery. "You see, I lived in Australia from the time I was seven years old until I came to train at St. Thomas' Hospital, so it does not seem so much of an undertaking to me to pack my boxes and start for the other side of the world as it would do to many people. Then I have always regretted that I have not seen India, and am greatly looking forward to doing so, and, of course, the work of Lady Minto's Indian Nursing Association is Imperial, and after the war we hope it will be extended."

Miss Darbyshire, who is Principal Matron of the Second London General Hospital (T.F.) at the St. Mark's College, Chelsea, has come into contact there with Lady Minto, who takes a keen interest in the hospital. She is impressed by Lady Minto's organizing capacity and business grip.

It is just ten years ago since Lady Minto's Indian Nursing Association was formed, to provide trained nurses for the European community in India, and during the whole of that time Mrs. Davies, who, like Miss Darbyshire, was trained at St. Thomas' Hospital, has acted

as Chief Lady Superintendent. The Headquarters of the Association are those of the Viceregal Party, six months at Calcutta—now probably at Delhi, since the seat of government has been removed there—and six months at Simla. As one glanced out of the window of the Matron's Office at St. Mary's overlooking Praed Street, the view limited by the shops on the opposite side, there arose before our mental vision the rose-red walls of that historic city, its famous Ridge, under the vault of blue, and the picturesque life of its people, and again the beauty and grandeur of the snow-capped Himalayas, and one could not wonder—setting

aside the interest of the professional work to which Miss Darbyshire is going—at the call of the East to one whose girlhood was spent in the wide open spaces of Australia.

The lure of the East seems an idle tale to those who have never been "East of Suez," but those who have know well that its insistent call is one which remains to life's end.

In addition to her training at St. Thomas' Hospital, Miss Darbyshire had previous training in Australia, including midwifery experience, which she expects will now be an advantage to her. She speaks also of her work as Sister-in-Charge of the Infectious Block at St. Thomas' Hospital, and in organizing the

private nursing staff at the Royal Infirmary, Derby, during her term of office as Matron there, as likely to be helpful experiences in her new appointment.

Amongst her regrets at leaving St. Mary's she mentions two improvements which she had hoped to see carried out—the establishment of a Preliminary Training School, and the granting of two days' consecutive leave each month to the members of the nursing staff. The establishment of the Preliminary School had, in fact, been decided upon, but it would have entailed building, and, like many other things, the war



MISS RUTH E. DARBYSHIRE, R.R.C.

prevented this from being carried into effect.

Miss Darbyshire goes to India with the warm good wishes of the nursing staffs both at St. Mary's and Chelsea, and, indeed, it seems likely that when peace is declared some of those working under her in this country may follow her to India. She has not only an excellent reputation as an organizer and administrator, but she has the faculty of securing the allegiance of those who work under her. We wish her every success in her new work, and, as THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING is so widely read in India, we take this opportunity of introducing her to her colleagues there, more especially to those associated together in the Association of Nursing Superintendents, and the Trained Nurses' Association of India, which have as their Patroness Her Excellency Lady Chelmsford, with whom Miss Darbyshire will be so closely associated in her new life.

At the end of her professional career, and while she still has health and vigour to enjoy it, Miss Darbyshire hopes to retire to a cottage in Surrey, and those who know the charm of that most delightful of English counties will sincerely hope that the wish may be fulfilled. It is surprising how chicken farming appeals to members of the nursing profession, and it is included in Miss Darbyshire's scheme for the future.

M. B.

NEW YEAR'S HONOURS.

Amongst the long list of New Year's Honours, all well deserved by our defenders on land and sea we are glad to see that the King has been pleased to confer the Decoration of the Imperial Order of the Crown of India on—

Marie Adelaide, Baroness Willingdon, wife of Sir Freeman, Baron Willingdon, G.C.I.E., Governor of the Presidency of Bombay.

His Majesty has also awarded the "Kaisar-i-Hind Medal for Public Services in India" of the First Class to the following ladies:—

Mary Helen Elizabeth, Lady Carmichael, wife of his Excellency the Governor of Bengal.

Her Highness Maharani Shri Nund Kunverba, C.I., Maharani of Bhavnagar, Kathiawar, Bombay Presidency.

Miss Agnes May Waterhouse, R.R.C., Chief Lady Superintendent, Queen Alexandra's Military Nursing Service for India.

THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF TRAINED MASSEUSES AND MASSEURS.

We are asked to state that the meeting arranged by the National Association of Trained Masseuses and Masseurs, 15, Piccadilly, Manchester, which was to have taken place in the Onward Buildings, on Saturday, January 12th, has been unavoidably postponed. We hope to make a further announcement shortly.

APPOINTMENTS.

MATRONS.

Royal Albert Edward Infirmary, Wigan.—At a special meeting of the Board of Management, held on Thursday, December 21st, 1916, Miss M. K. Coggins was appointed Matron of the Infirmary. Miss Coggins has been Assistant Matron of the Royal Infirmary, Sheffield, since 1914, and was trained at St. George's Hospital, London, and was Electrical and Ward Sister up to August, 1913, and became Home Sister, Warneford Hospital, Leamington, leaving that hospital in 1914 to take up her appointment at Sheffield, which she now resigns. There were forty-two candidates for the post.

LADY-SUPERINTENDENT.

Birmingham and Midland Homœopathic Hospital, Birmingham.—Miss Lilian May Whittingham has been appointed Lady Superintendent. She was trained at St. Pancras Infirmary, and has been Sister at the Devon and Cornwall Homœopathic Hospital, Plymouth, and Night Sister at the Birmingham Eye Hospital.

QUEEN VICTORIA'S JUBILEE INSTITUTE.

TRANSFERS AND APPOINTMENTS.

Miss Alice M. M. Corns is appointed to Heanor; Mrs. Mary A. Humphries, to Ashton-under-Lyne; Miss Mary L. Tarver, to Buckland; Miss Lily M. Tatton, to Woolton; Miss Trotman, to Chelsea.

RESIGNATION.

The resignation of Miss Marian S. Riddell, R.R.C., of the Matronship of the Chelsea Hospital for Women, will be received by the members of the nursing staff with very sincere regret. During her tenure of office Miss Riddell, who was trained at St. Bartholomew's Hospital, proved herself an exceedingly capable Matron, and the efficiency of the nursing department under her direction was very evident. On the outbreak of war Miss Riddell was called up for duty as Matron at the 2nd London General Hospital, Chelsea.

PRACTICAL LECTURES ON MILK.

A course of eight lectures on Milk and Milk Products will be delivered at the South Western Polytechnic Institute, Manresa Road, Chelsea, S.W., on Thursday evenings at 7.30, commencing on February 1st, 1917. They will be found of considerable use to all classes of people interested in the supply and use of milk and milk foods. The lectures will be delivered by Mr. Cecil Revis, A.C.G.I., chief chemist, Messrs. Welford & Sons, Ltd. Fee for the course, 2s. 6d. Further particulars can be obtained from the head of the Chemical Department (Room 60).

HOSPITAL SUNDAY.

At the annual meeting, held at the Mansion House, of the Hospital Sunday Fund, it was announced that last year the total amount received was £70,700. It was resolved that in future, Hospital Sunday should always be the fourth Sunday in June.

NURSING ECHOES.

Amongst the good wishes for the New Year we greatly value those coming from our very true friends in the United States. Miss Adelaide Nutting, of Teachers College, tells us how she keeps herself informed of our great nursing problems, and realises fully problems such as we have to contend with must always be worked from within. This is very true, but we appreciate her sympathetic interest all the same. Oh that we in this country had the freedom and opportunity for professional development our colleagues have in the wonderful West. It is only a few days ago that one of our most generous workers for social evolution said sadly:—"Sometimes I wish I had never been to America. The contrast between freedom of thought and action there and our restrictive environment here is too acute. It makes one almost despair."

Well can we sympathise with this feeling, which we know is shared by so many of our Nursing Sisters from overseas, who are now serving the Empire on many fronts.

We regret we cannot find space for the reports of the very happy Christmas Day spent as usual by the sick in hospitals, but from all over the country we gather that everything was done to brighten the day for them, and make them forget their absence from home and all their pain and trouble. A very joyous time was spent at the Crippled Children's Hospital at Alton, where Sir William Treloar played Father Christmas, to the huge delight of the children.

The Queen Alexandra Nurses' Home had been most artistically decorated, and after dinner a fancy dress dance was held by the nurses, which was a great success, and was thoroughly enjoyed. The costumes were of great variety and beauty, and in the setting of the fine Recreation Room, where the dance was held, made a splendid picture. Great interest was added by the fact that Sir William Treloar presented prizes for the most original, the most patriotic, and the prettiest costumes. These were won by:—1, Nurse Horstead (prettiest costume), Egyptian water carrier—prize, pendant, spider's web in gold, spider in turquoise and pearls; 2, Nurse Crockford (most original), African woman—pendant, gold and pearls and aquamarines; 3, Nurse Breeze (patriotic), brown paper parcel and Christmas pudding—pendant, gold, French enamel, and pearls.

We have received several letters from nurses in the service of the Metropolitan

Asylums Board strongly objecting to the discontinuance of distinctive uniforms for the different grades of nurses. Apparently all, from Superintendent Nurse to domestic staff, are to wear gowns of Oxford shirting, the only distinguishing mark to be stripes and badges. Letters sent anonymously cannot be inserted. We feel sure this is a question on which the Nursing Staffs of the Board's hospitals should be given an opportunity of expressing an opinion, as it is largely a question of status and discipline, and is therefore of the utmost importance in the harmonious conduct of such institutions.

At a meeting of the City of London Guardians, on the 12th of last month, a letter was read from the Medical Officer, Homerton, reporting that a nurse had pro-German tendencies, and enclosing evidence of witnesses in support of the contention. The matter was discussed in Committee. On the Board re-assembling, the Chairman announced that the recommendation of the Committee was that the services of the officer should be dispensed with by giving her one month's money to terminate her appointment forthwith. The report was adopted by ten votes to seven. It was stated by the Chairman that the matter was in the hands of the police. Some of the Guardians determined to convene a meeting to secure rescission of the resolution granting the nurse a month's salary.

At an extraordinary meeting of the City Guardians, held on the 28th December, the Clerk read the minutes relating to the alleged pro-German conduct of the nurse. In answer to Mr. Victor Brown, he said he had not yet taken action with regard to her dismissal. It was reported that the police had informed the Clerk that at present there was nothing against the woman on which they could detain her under the Defence of the Realm Act.

The motion to rescind the resolution, "That the services of Charge Nurse — be terminated, and that she be paid one month's money as and from to-day" was lost—eight voted for it, and sixteen against. More, no doubt, will be heard of this matter.

The late Mr. F. Devereux Lambert, of Moor Hall, Cobham, Berks, has left £200 to his nurse, Miss Susan Ethel Rowe. We congratulate her on this recognition of her professional services.

Have you had this Letter, Nurse ? —if not, kindly read it now.

Dear Madam,

We feel sure you will be interested to hear that the English assets of A. Wulfin & Co. —including all stocks of Sanatogen, Formamint, Albulactin, etc.—have been purchased from the Board of Trade by Lord Rhondda, in association with other English business men. In the future, therefore, the business will be entirely British, and free from enemy capital or interest.

We should like to make it quite clear to you that these preparations of ours are not “imitations” or “substitutes”—they are not “identical with,” “equivalent to” or “better than” (!!) the original German-owned products; they are those original products themselves; absolutely the real, true, genuine thing—made in the same British factories, by the same special machinery and processes, by the same skilled chemists and workmen, all of whom are born Englishmen, trained for years past by the German firm, and, by the way, ineligible for army service.

Until the existing stocks are exhausted we shall retain the names Sanatogen, Formamint, etc., despite the fact that any worthless imitation can now call itself by these names, though we alone have the genuine article. But you can easily identify the latter, because, for the present, it will continue to bear the old “Wulfin” label: later on, we shall alter both the names and the labels in such a way as to avoid any further confusion with the multitude of imitation-products.

During the time that this business was under the control of a Government supervisor, many nurses informed us that they were disappointed with the therapeutic effects of the imitations, and would gladly utilise the original products as soon as these had been acquired by a British firm.

As this condition is now fulfilled, we have pleasure in offering you abundant samples of Sanatogen, Formamint, Albulactin and Cystopurin; and, if it would not be troubling you too much, we should be glad to have your assurance that you will in future give these products no less consideration than you did in the days when their German ownership was no reproach to them.

We are, dear Madam, Yours faithfully,

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Made to special
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Fine Black Straw, trim-
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Cloth, **2/6** each.

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Made of fine hem-
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SLEEVES, 8 1/2d. pair
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OVERALL, in blue-**
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**BLACK PATENT
LEATHER BELT**
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1 1/2 in. 1/3 1/2 each.



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Muslin, 1/2 yd. sq., **1/3** each

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With Round Corners.
3 1/2 in. deep, **6 1/2d.** per pair;
3/3 half-dozen.
4 in. deep, **7 1/2d.** per pair;
3/9 half-dozen.
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Linen, 60 in.
wide,
4/11, 6/11, 7/11
In three sizes,
length 36, 38,
and 40 in.

The "CELIA" BELT.

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Belt, stiffened
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A VALUABLE NERVE FOOD.

When Sanatogen was first put upon the market in this country, it was prescribed for a nurse well known to us, who derived such wonderful benefit from its use that she was insistent in drawing our attention to it with the result that the proprietors used THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING as their advertising medium for bringing it to the notice of the nursing profession, and subsequently testified to the great use this journal was to them in accomplishing this.

Later, when war was declared, it became known that this valuable nerve food was a German product, and therefore unavailable for use by any patriotic person of British nationality. This was matter for regret, for Sanatogen—which is a combination of organic phosphorus and casein—had proved of great value in medical treatment, notably in cases of nerve exhaustion, and in anaemia in various forms, especially chlorosis. Research has proved that where anaemia results from impaired nutrition in the blood forming organs, we have in Sanatogen a means of flushing these organs with a blood of a high serum albumin content.

The recent announcement that a British company had taken over the business was received with great satisfaction, and it is a special pleasure to us that once again Sanatogen takes its place in the announcements in our advertisement pages.

As our readers are probably aware, Lord Rhondda became the Chairman of the British Company, the headquarters of which are at 12, Chenies Street, London, W.C., but now that he has accepted office in the new Government, he has resigned the position, and his daughter, Lady Mackworth, has been elected by the directors to the vacant office. Her qualifications for the position are undoubted, as, during Lord Rhondda's absence in America, on important Government business, Lady Mackworth took entire charge of her father's great coal and shipping interests with very marked success.

We wish the company under its new Directorate the prosperous career that Sanatogen, on its merits, assuredly deserves, together with Formamint and other specialities of the firm.

Just now, when the strain and stress of war are causing so much acute neurasthenia amongst our troops, it should be invaluable in treating these most sad cases in the trenches and in hospitals.

PAPER SUPPLY RESTRICTIONS.

TREAT YOURSELF TO THE B.J.N. FOR 1917.

To ensure obtaining THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING every week (and you cannot keep in touch with events from a professional point of view without it) you must absolutely give a definite order to a newsagent. Price one penny weekly, or order it direct from the office, 431, Oxford Street, London, W. (Price 1s. 9d. for three months, 3s. 6d. for six months, or 6s. 6d. for a year.

NOO YEAR'S EVE DOWN EAST.

Bein' as 'ow Noo Year's Eve fell on a Sunday this year, Bill took the kids out drivin' in his coster's cart down the Mile End towards Eppin', to see a bit of the country like. The moke was tied up with odd bits of ribbon and the remains of last night's sale of flowers was stuck behind her ears. The missus had made the three little girls bright blue frocks, and bein' as they were noo and it was Noo Year's Eve, they didn't seem to feel the need of anything warmer. His son and heir wore a terrific Scotch dress of red tartan surmounted by a "crocher" collar. Long greasy curls fell round his sallow little face from under the Scotch bonnet. Bill felt a thrill of fatherly pride and virtue when he stopped outside the pub (they had started in good time so as not to miss these now few and precious opportunities) and provided them each with a large stodgy biscuit. "And be good children and set still till daddy comes back." To do Bill justice, he wasn't very long, and he wasn't more than genial.

Bumpity bump went the little cart down the Mile End Road, almost as far as the "country," and then home to the missus and tea and winkles.

"Ole woman," says Bill, over that succulent repast, "what abart me and you goin' over to the church to night to see the Ole Year art? The pubs is all shet and it'll seem a bit dull like."

"I don't mind if we does," says Mrs. Bill. "The minister is a fair ole toff from all accounts, though *we* 'ave never asted for a crumb orf 'im. 'E oughter 'ave a bit of hencouragement."

At midnight Bill, still a shade more genial, and the missus, made their way to the church, which at the end of a long day's work once more threw out her net to catch this quaint and pathetic section of her children, for whom this service was the sole religious effort of the year. The priest surveyed the crowded church with an ache in his heart, but with kindly humour in his eye.

They sang a hymn about the uncertainty of life, which they much relished, and Mrs. Bill shed tears, though she couldn't have explained why.

"I wish you all a Happy New Year," said the Vicar, as the clock struck.

"The same to you, old sport," responded Bill from the back of the Church, and he went home to bed at peace with the world, himself included.

H. H.

WORD FOR THE WEEK.

"Actual evidence, I have none,
But my charwoman's sister's son
Heard a policeman on his beat
Say to a housemaid in Downing Street
That he had a brother who had a friend
Who knew when the war was going to end."

—From "*All the Rumours*,"
by Reginald Orbell.

BOOK OF THE WEEK.

"WAR PHASES ACCORDING TO MARIA."*

Can we have too much of Maria? Certainly not while she continues to supply us with such an abundance of humour. We will not take up space with comment; Maria demands all she can secure. Forthwith to Maria. She still continues to wear Tango curls as a war economy. She wished to "do something."

"It isn't the sort of thing," said Maria mournfully, "for which people's pictures are put in the papers."

Mrs. Dill-Binkie, her social rival, had already won notoriety as a Red Cross nurse. In the ha'penny illustrated, in the place of honour usually reserved for royalty, was Mrs. Dill-Binkie in a uniform manifestly designed by no less a one than "Lucile." "There she is, and don't know any more about nursing than a cat—not so much, for she has never had kittens. And to think she is already in the papers, and hasn't had her uniform a week, and only had one convalescent, and he ran away in a week. I know she had to wait three months for her uniform," said Maria mysteriously, for "Lucile was so rushed making uniforms for duchesses who simply wouldn't wait, they were in such a tearing hurry to start nursing. She had to board Mr. Dill-Binkie before she could turn her house into a rest-cure for convalescent officers. And the way the photographers rang at the front-door bell all day long and asked to take her photograph surrounded by her nurses was most touching."



MRS. DILL-BINKIE AS A MINISTERING ANGEL.

"Amateur nurses," she explained, "have so much more real feeling. They keep a common one to do the work." On Mrs. Dill-Binkie's head was a snow-white cap veil, one of the sort that flops in the soup and catches in the door, but makes them all look like amateur nuns. Maria is human, and she heard with gloomy joy that the amateur nurses were rebelling against always being photographed as surrounding Mrs. Dill-Binkie like humble and adoring satellites. They were neither humble nor adoring, and their uniforms cost just

as much as hers, and so did their caps.

The only convalescent who had so far come—and that by mistake—declared to the common or garden nurse who did the hard work and to whom he clung, that he didn't believe he had any face left, it had been nearly all washed away. But, of course, as there were so many nurses and only one convalescent he couldn't possibly go round.

"Maria on submarines" is equally delicious.

Her son managed to get a commander to show her over one. The blue-eyed commander introduced them gaily to his heart's treasures—the torpedoes. And that was the historic moment when Maria asked if she might sit down on one, she was so tired. Maria has no sense of humour.

"And do you know what I thought of as I sat there?" she asked pensively.

"I said I didn't; how could I?"

"I thought of Tomkins," said Maria.

Now, to think of Tomkins, at the supreme moment when one is sitting on a torpedo! For Tomkins is Maria's housemaid and has a mania for scrubbing as other people have for writing poetry.

"I could almost see her polishing the torpedoes," Maria spoke with feeling.

* By Mrs. John Lane. John Lane, Bodley Head.

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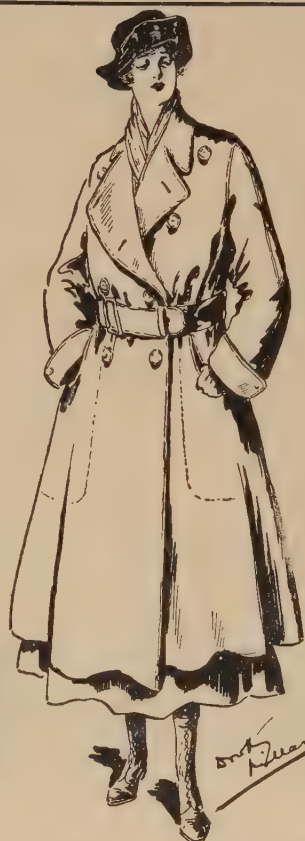
Unbiased Opinions.

I am charmed with my "Studington," it fits perfectly and is so comfortable; I shall recommend it to all my friends. (Mrs.) H. S.

The Hon. Mrs. Graham Murray is highly pleased with the beautiful "Studington" Coat, which was supplied to her last week, and which she finds most useful and very warm, yet light.

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LACTOPEPTINE

POWDER, TABLETS, ELIXIR.

Prize Competition.

RULES FOR COMPETITION.

1. Any reader of **THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING** may compete for the prize of **FIVE SHILLINGS** which will be paid to the **writer of the best article of from 300 to 750 words on the following subject—**
"What are the different forms of meningitis in children? What do you know of them and of the nursing care needed?"

The dated Coupon for January 6th, published on this page, must be cut out by the Competitor, and enclosed with the article she sends, with her full name and address inserted. This answer should be posted not later than **January 6th**, to the Editor, 20, Upper Wimpole St., London, W., marked on the envelope **"Prize Competition."** **The Name of the Winner of the Prize and the Prize Article will appear on January 13th, 1917.**

2. The Editor's decision must be accepted by each Competitor as final and unquestionable.

Prize Competition Coupon

January 6th, 1917

Name of Competitor

Address

The exceedingly clever illustrations by A. H. Fish add no inconsiderable part to the delightful humour of the book. We should advise those in need of a "pick-me-up" to make an immediate acquaintance with Maria. H. H.

COMING EVENTS.

January 4th.—National Council of Nurses of Great Britain and Ireland: Meeting of the Executive Committee, 431, Oxford Street, London, W. 4 p.m.

January 6th.—Irish Nurses' Association: Meeting Executive Committee, 34, St. Stephen's Green, Dublin. 8.0 p.m.

January 18th.—Central Midwives Board. Monthly Meeting, Queen Anne's Gate Buildings, S.W. 3.30.

January 20th.—League of St. Bartholomew's Hospital Nurses: The Winter General Meeting, Clinical Theatre, 3.0 p.m.; Social Gathering, Nurses' Sitting Room.

January 27th.—Meeting in Dublin to discuss the College of Nursing. Arguments for and against.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.

Whilst cordially inviting communications upon all subjects for these columns, we wish it to be distinctly understood that we do not in ANY WAY hold ourselves responsible for the opinions expressed by our correspondents.

LEGACIES TO NURSES.

To the Editor of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING.

DEAR MADAM,—No doubt the majority of nurses who benefit by legacies under the wills of patients well deserve it, but there is the other side. I know of a trained nurse whose three recent patients—all old men, with whom she was not for any length of time—have all left her a very considerable sum of money. Surely it is a little suspicious of undue influence when such a thing becomes a rule with a certain woman's patients. A just reward is one thing, but when it runs into hundreds of pounds it is often unfair on the family. Yours truly,

A VERY POOR RELATION.

DISTINCTIVE UNIFORMS FOR FEVER NURSES.

To the Editor of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING.

DEAR MADAM,—I note in the last issue of the JOURNAL that the Metropolitan Asylums Board have decided to adopt a uniform dress of plain Oxford shirting for the various grades in hospital service, the rank being denoted by distinguishing marks—one, two, and three chevrons of blue striped jean, for probationers, assistant nurses, and staff nurses respectively, the Sisters, in addition to the three chevrons, having a badge representing the Board's Arms, and the Superintendent Nurses the badge and one straight stripe with scroll piped with red twill.

I think it will be very confusing to doctors, patients and visitors if all grades wear the same uniform, as it takes an expert to appreciate the difference in the number of chevrons, whereas a difference in the colour of the dress is appreciated at a glance. I think, also, it will be very galling to Sisters and Staff Nurses who have been proud of their uniform to have to wear the same as assistant nurses and probationers. I am sure it will be most unpopular.

I am, yours faithfully,

A SISTER WHO OBJECTS.

To the Editor of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING.

DEAR MADAM,—Surely the decision to dress all ranks of nurses in the M.A.B.'s hospitals in the same uniform dress will be very unpopular, and has been arranged by men, without due discussion with the Matrons of the Board. Women know the power and influence of uniform, and how in a hospital it emphasizes rank, and helps to maintain discipline. In my young days the Sisters in a certain hospital did not wear caps—they considered them a "badge of servitude"—but a new Matron looked so charming in her cap that they soon all followed suit, much to the satisfaction of the "staffs" and "pros."

Yours sincerely,

ONE OF THE OLD SCHOOL.

To the Editor of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING.

DEAR MADAM,—Will you kindly insert the following in your journal:—

I wish to strongly protest against the proposal that Sisters should wear the same uniform as nurses and maids. If such a suggestion is insisted upon I would much rather pay for my own dress material, as I consider it a degradation to all trained nurses.

Thanking you in anticipation,

I am, yours faithfully,

A TRAINED BOARD SISTER.

To the Editor of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING.

DEAR MADAM,—I read with surprise of the intended change of uniform, and very strongly disapprove of the trained Sisters having to wear the same kind of dresses as nurses and maids, especially the latter. I do not think the badge for the Sisters, and the chevrons for the different grades of nurses, sufficiently distinctive; in my opinion it is lowering the status of nursing.

A TRAINED BOARD SISTER.

[We have received many more letters on this question to the same effect.—ED.]

OUR PRIZE COMPETITIONS.

January 13th.—What are the different forms of meningitis in children? What do you know of them and of the nursing care needed?

January 20th.—A patient becomes unconscious from cerebral hæmorrhage; what would you do in such a case? In the event of the patient becoming helpless from hemiplegia afterwards, indicate how you would nurse the case?

The Midwife.

MIDWIVES FOR CANADA.

In the issue of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING Supplement of November 11th there was an account, with the above heading, of a meeting held in London, which informed Canadians that plans for solving their nursing problems were afoot. It was so comical that the audacity of it was lost sight of for a moment.

The scheme proposed is to utilize the V.A.D. workers, the sporting woman, the woman who wishes freedom for herself and horse, &c., to look after the people on the Canadian prairies. The question of training is apparently nothing, though it is arranged that the word "midwife" be changed to "mother nurse"—the person remaining the same. Then a Resolution was passed: "This meeting wishes to express its deepfelt desire to co-operate with the Dominion in her efforts to place adequate midwifery within the means and within the reach of pioneer settlers in outlying districts." I wonder to whom that Resolution was sent.

Now let us look closely at this matter. There is a need for nurses and doctors in the sparsely settled parts of the Dominion, but the need is for the fully trained nurse and the fully trained physician. The woman who goes out to those parts to nurse must be able to cope with all emergencies. She must be able to conduct a maternity case unaided, if necessary; to care for accident cases, pneumonia cases, and so on. She must be able to teach and advise the young mothers, and to watch over the infants. Nothing short of that is acceptable to the Western people, as the writer has heard them express themselves many times over. Besides, they wish women who are adaptable, who can turn their hands to any of the household duties when necessary.

Canada is willing to welcome the fully trained woman for work on the prairies if she have the qualifications necessary, no matter whence she comes. Her people are able and willing to pay well for efficient service, and they do not wish and will not accept any charity, certainly not from other countries. *And Canada is able to solve her problems herself.* At present, midwives are not needed in Canada, and may they never be needed in this fair land! But if at any time in the future it should be decided that they are necessary, Canada will have to evolve her own midwife scheme. She will have to create

her own machinery—the training school, the examining board, the licensing and supervising board for midwives. *And she is perfectly capable of doing so.*

The above expresses the writer's opinion as a private Canadian citizen.

MARY ARD MACKENZIE.

We are not surprised that the article referred to by Miss Ard Mackenzie has resulted in her strong protest.

No one is better qualified to express an opinion on this subject than Miss Ard Mackenzie, who, as Chief Superintendent of the Victorian Order of Nurses in Canada, is acquainted with nursing conditions from the Atlantic to the Pacific. It is extraordinary how, in nursing matters, every one feels competent to deal with highly technical questions without consulting the expert opinion of members of the nursing profession.

In reporting the meeting held at Sunderland House on November 3rd, which has as its object co-operation with the Dominion of Canada in her efforts to place adequate midwifery within the means, and within the reach, of pioneer settlers in outlying districts by getting V.A.D.s and war widows to train as midwives, and then emigrate to the outlying districts of Canada, we questioned if the Canadian National Association of Trained Nurses had been approached concerning the scheme. Apparently it has not, and, as Miss Ard Mackenzie reminds us, "Canada is able to solve her problems herself. At present midwives are not needed in Canada, and may they never be needed in this fair land."

Lady Howard de Walden is establishing a maternity home at Park House, Albert Road, Regent's Park, in connection with the Marchioness of Lansdowne's Officers' Families Fund. As so many officers' wives have given up their homes, these "homes" are a real blessing.

The offices of the Central Midwives Board are now removed from Caxton House to Queen Anne's Gate Buildings, Westminster, London, S.W.

The dates of the Ordinary Board meetings for 1917 have been fixed as follows:—

January 18th.	June 21st.
February 15th.	July 26th.
March 15th.	October 11th.
April 19th.	November 15th.
May 10th.	December 13th.

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Gentlemen, 21st January, 1915.

I desire to add my testimony to the virtues of Virol. After I had been feeding my twin babies for several months the quantity of milk became insufficient to satisfy them, and I began to feel quite ill, and was much afraid I would have to wean them. I was most anxious not to do this as so many babies were dying of diarrhoea. I decided to try taking Virol. It was not long before I noticed a great improvement in my health, the flow of milk was markedly increased, and I was able to continue to entirely breast feed my babies until they were nine months old. They are lovely children, and I can never speak too highly of the benefit I derived from taking Virol.

Yours gratefully,

MARY WATSON.

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The Society secures to the Nurses the just remuneration for their work.

The Society is managed by a professional Committee.

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